

H.C.A 30/258

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J. Mad.

I have not

been able enough to imagine a letter from me can be of any consequence to you except to flatter my self that having you a sincere tho unhappy friend will not be disagreeable.

You undoubtedly are by this ignorant of the fatal reason of not receiving a letter from my father, and it is needless for me to tell you that that dear tender parent, that friend whom you so much esteem, is now no more.

Long had he withstood the cruelty of expensive fortune, but in vain, his constitution was broke by the persecutions of his enemies, and at last yielded up to the dreadful blow, and took from me an instant father, a tender friend, and almost every hope of happiness.

Oh! just Heaven what crime had I committed to deserve so great a punishment, where can I find words that can express the greatness of my anguish the most eloquent description of distress with false view of the distraction I was in.

No fortune, no friend, and going to a part of the world where I was an entire stranger, nothing but wretchedness and misery before me, and not the least idea of remedy, in short I can not tell you what I suffered in that distracting fatal moment. Let it suffice to say, that my resolution already almost dash'd by so long a series of misfortunes, was incapable of resisting so severe a stroke, both with my senses quite forsook me and I remained in a manner ignorant of my case for